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# Assembly California Legislature



**CHRIS NORBY**  
ASSEMBLYMAN, SEVENTY-SECOND DISTRICT

COMMITTEES  
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APPROPRIATIONS  
TRANSPORTATION  
JOINT LEGISLATIVE AUDIT  
LOCAL GOVERNMENT

February 23, 2011

California Fair Political Practices Commission  
428 J Street, Suite 800  
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Chairwoman and Commissioners,

This letter is to inform you of the introduction of AB 1241 which is a reintroduction of AB 2164 (Norby, 2010). This bill would amend the Levine Act of 1982, to clarify that officers directly elected to local agencies are not held to two standards if the agency includes appointed members.

The Levine Act is unique among the provisions of the Political Reform Act, in that it defines a campaign contribution to an elected official as the basis for a disqualifying conflict of interest. AB 1241 proposes a very narrow modification to the Levine Act and would only apply to agencies that have a combination of appointed and directly elected members. By striking the words "elected or" from statute, it would ensure that campaign contribution disclosure and conflict of interest requirements originally intended for appointed members of agencies do not extend to members who are directly elected to such agencies.

This amendment would only impact eight special districts in the state with a combined total of 59 members, 39 of whom are elected and 20 of whom are appointed. The objective is to treat officials who are directly elected to serve on an agency that has both directly elected and appointed membership in the same manner as all other directly elected officials (e.g. city council members, county supervisors). Please note that AB 1241 does not exempt elected officials from the disclosure and disqualification provisions of the Levine Act when they are serving on a board or commission to which they were not directly elected (e.g. AQMD, LAFCO).

The Commission had previously taken a "neutral" position on AB 2164. AB 1241 seeks accomplish the same as AB 2164. I would like to work with staff and the Commission to reach a support position on AB 1241.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Chris Norby".

Assemblyman Chris Norby  
72<sup>nd</sup> Assembly District